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## LABOUR FORCE STATUS AND EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT, AUSTRALIA, FEBRUARY 1989, SUMMARY

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### MAIN FEATURES

DIAGRAM 1. ALL PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER :  
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT AT FEBRUARY 1989

(Source of data : Table 3)

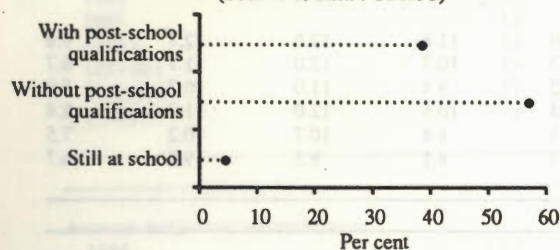


DIAGRAM 2. ALL PERSONS : PROPORTION IN THE LABOUR  
FORCE AT FEBRUARY 1989 BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

(Source of data : Table 3)

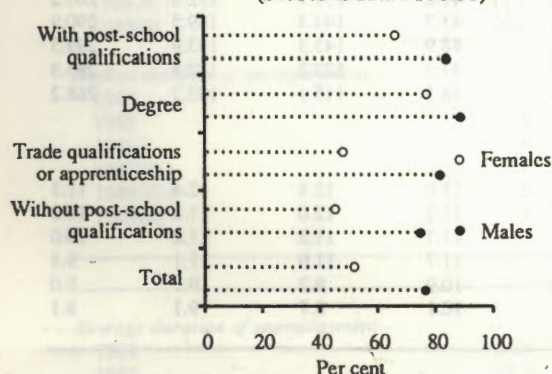
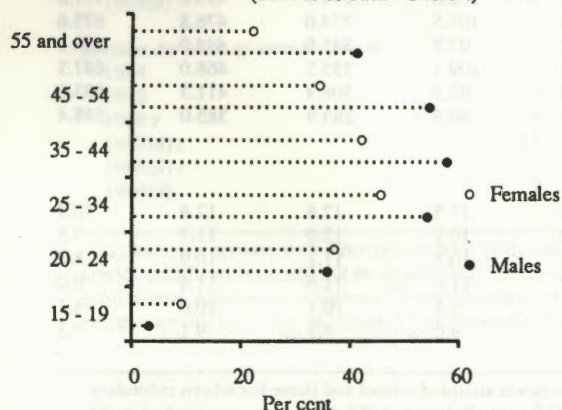


DIAGRAM 3. PROPORTION OF PERSONS WITH POST-SCHOOL  
QUALIFICATIONS : AGE AND GENDER AT FEBRUARY 1989

(Source of data : Table 4)



In February 1989, of the estimated civilian population aged 15 years and over of 12,618,100, some 4,852,800 persons (38.5 per cent) were reported to have obtained at least one post-school qualification, 7,197,200 persons (57.0 per cent) were without a post-school qualification and 568,100 persons (4.5 per cent) were still at school.

Participation in the labour force varied according to educational attainment. Persons who had obtained post-school qualifications had a participation rate of 76.3 per cent with persons holding a degree qualification (957,600) having a rate of 84.2 per cent, persons with a trade qualification or apprenticeship (1,670,700) having a rate of 77.6 per cent and persons with a certificate or diploma qualification (2,193,200) a rate of 72.0 per cent. Persons who had no post-school qualifications had a participation rate of 58.6 per cent. Of these, persons who had attended the highest level of secondary school available (1,465,900) had a participation rate of 73.5 per cent, those persons who had not attended the highest level of secondary school available (5,648,500) had a rate of 55.0 per cent and those who had never attended a school a rate of 21.6 per cent (over two-thirds of this group were aged 55 and over). Persons still at school had a participation rate of 32.0 per cent.

65.4 per cent (385,000) of the 588,400 estimated unemployed were persons who had not obtained a post-school qualification, giving this group an unemployment rate of 9.1 per cent compared to a rate of 4.5 per cent for persons with post-school qualifications. The unemployment rate for persons with a degree was 4.0 per cent, for those with a trade qualification or apprenticeship it was 3.6 per cent and for those with a certificate or diploma 5.3 per cent.

The overall proportion of males with post-school qualifications (44.3 per cent) is considerably higher than the corresponding estimate of 32.7 per cent for females. Of the estimated 2,772,400 males with post-school qualifications the largest number 729,700 (26.3 per cent) fell in the age group 25 to 34 years, 715,400 (25.8 per cent) in the 35 to 44 years age group and 597,900 (21.6 per cent) 55 years and over. For the estimate 2,080,400 females with post-school qualifications the number peaked, as for males, in the 25 to 34 years age group with 616,800 (29.6 per cent) decreasing to 514,300 (24.7 per cent) for the 35 to 44 years age group and 363,700 (17.5 per cent) for those aged 55 years and over.

NOTE: Explanatory Notes are published at the back of this publication.



TABLE 1. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS : EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE  
FEBRUARY 1984 TO FEBRUARY 1989

Educational attainment							
With post-school qualifications				Without post-school qualifications			
Degree	Trade qualification or apprenticeship	Certificate or diploma	Total(a)	Attended highest level of secondary school available	Did not attend highest level of secondary school available	Total(b)	Total(c)
MALES							
-- '000 --							
Total unemployed--							
1984	18.9	96.7	118.6	60.6	238.6	301.6	435.8
1985	12.5	77.7	94.4	60.3	222.9	284.0	390.4
1986 r	12.9	68.4	86.9	54.1	200.6	255.3	359.2
1987(d) r	14.3	58.5	21.7	95.7	60.2	211.8	387.8
1988(d) r	13.1	55.3	22.5	92.3	50.0	238.9	349.7
1989(d)	18.0	41.5	22.2	82.5	48.7	219.8	320.2
-- per cent --							
Unemployment rate--							
1984	4.3	6.4	5.9	11.8	12.8	12.7	9.8
1985	2.8	5.2	4.7	10.7	12.0	11.7	8.7
1986 r	2.8	4.4	4.2	9.8	11.0	10.7	8.0
1987(d) r	3.0	4.9	4.2	10.5	12.0	11.7	8.4
1988(d) r	2.6	4.6	4.1	8.4	10.7	10.2	7.5
1989(d)	3.4	3.4	3.5	8.1	9.5	9.2	6.7
FEMALES							
-- '000 --							
Total unemployed--							
1984	14.2	71.1	88.5	41.4	156.1	198.0	301.9
1985	11.2	53.7	70.6	41.2	151.7	192.8	283.2
1986 r	15.0	59.9	82.2	43.7	144.4	189.5	290.9
1987(d) r	11.0	5.7	63.7	48.9	143.3	193.9	299.5
1988(d) r	14.1	6.6	67.0	47.5	122.2	172.4	283.8
1989(d)	14.2	5.3	61.4	48.3	115.1	165.2	268.2
-- per cent --							
Unemployment rate--							
1984	7.1	9.2	8.8	11.0	12.8	12.4	11.3
1985	4.7	6.7	6.5	11.2	12.0	11.8	10.2
1986 r	6.0	7.1	7.2	11.1	11.2	11.2	10.0
1987(d) r	4.6	6.1	7.3	11.7	11.0	11.1	9.8
1988(d) r	5.4	7.5	7.3	10.9	9.2	9.7	9.0
1989(d)	5.0	5.7	6.1	10.1	8.7	9.1	8.1
PERSONS							
-- '000 --							
Total unemployed--							
1984	33.1	167.8	207.1	102.0	394.7	499.6	737.8
1985	23.7	131.4	164.9	101.5	374.6	476.8	673.6
1986 r	27.9	128.4	169.2	97.8	345.0	444.9	650.1
1987(d) r	25.4	64.2	85.3	178.1	109.1	468.0	687.3
1988(d) r	27.2	61.9	89.5	182.0	97.5	411.3	633.6
1989(d)	32.3	46.8	83.6	166.1	96.9	385.0	588.4
-- per cent --							
Unemployment rate--							
1984	5.2	7.3	6.9	11.5	12.8	12.6	10.4
1985	3.4	5.8	5.4	10.9	12.0	11.7	9.3
1986 r	3.9	5.4	5.3	10.3	11.1	10.9	8.7
1987(d) r	3.6	5.0	6.1	11.0	11.6	11.4	9.0
1988(d) r	3.6	4.8	6.1	9.5	10.1	10.0	8.1
1989(d)	4.0	3.6	5.3	9.0	9.1	9.1	7.3

(a) Includes persons with other post-school qualifications. (b) Includes persons who never attended school and those for whom secondary school qualifications could not be determined. (c) Includes persons still at school. (d) Prior to February 1987 the data now published in the Educational Attainment categories "Trade qualification or apprenticeship" and "Certificate or diploma" were published as "Trade, technical or other certificate". See paragraph 14 of Appendix B.

TABLE 2. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS : EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT, AVERAGE AND MEDIAN DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT, FEBRUARY 1984 TO FEBRUARY 1989 (Weeks)

Educational attainment							
With post-school qualifications				Without post-school qualifications			
Degree	Trade qualif- ication or apprent- iceship	Certif- icate or diploma	Total(a)	Attended highest level of secondary school available	Did not attend highest level of secondary school available	Total(b)	Total(c)
MALES							
Average duration of unemployment--							
1984	34.7	35.5	35.3	37.5	54.4	51.2	45.6
1985	30.6	42.9	40.3	32.7	63.5	57.4	51.9
1986 r	36.2	49.0	47.6	35.6	65.2	59.1	54.2
1987(d) r	50.0	56.7 47.4	53.3	35.3	66.9	60.5	56.7
1988(d) r	39.8	48.2 50.7	47.5	32.3	70.5	62.5	56.0
1989(d)	29.1	68.9 53.3	56.3	27.8	70.6	60.9	56.9
Median duration of unemployment--							
1984	13	21	19	15	39	32	26
1985	12	15	14	12	29	26	22
1986 r	12	13	13	11	28	24	18
1987(d) r	13	17 26	17	11	26	24	20
1988(d) r	11	15 13	14	10	30	24	18
1989(d)	8	26 20	17	9	26	19	16
FEMALES							
Average duration of unemployment--							
1984	11.7	26.6	25.0	32.9	45.9	43.3	36.4
1985	23.0	27.4	29.4	23.7	42.5	38.5	34.6
1986 r	11.9	25.1	23.1	21.8	34.4	31.7	28.1
1987(d) r	20.2	33.3 23.1	23.2	25.6	44.5	39.6	33.1
1988(d) r	11.1	47.5 28.2	28.4	22.7	37.9	34.2	30.6
1989(d)	16.2	28.5 23.9	23.2	17.2	42.3	35.7	30.5
Median duration of unemployment--							
1984	8	9	9	12	18	16	13
1985	5	8	9	10	19	14	12
1986 r	6	8	8	9	12	11	9
1987(d) r	11	11 8	8	11	15	13	10
1988(d) r	5	27 8	8	8	15	12	9
1989(d)	8	7 5	6	7	10	9	8
PERSONS							
Average duration of unemployment--							
1984	24.9	31.6	30.9	35.6	51.1	48.1	41.9
1985	27.0	36.6	35.7	29.0	55.0	49.7	44.6
1986 r	23.1	37.9	35.7	29.4	52.3	47.4	42.6
1987(d) r	37.0	54.6 29.2	39.3	30.9	57.9	51.8	46.4
1988(d) r	24.9	48.2 33.9	38.1	27.6	57.6	50.6	44.6
1989(d)	23.4	64.3 31.7	39.6	22.5	59.1	50.1	44.9
Median duration of unemployment--							
1984	10	15	13	13	28	26	19
1985	9	13	12	10	26	20	16
1986 r	8	11	11	10	20	16	13
1987(d) r	11	15 10	12	11	24	18	14
1988(d) r	7	15 8	9	9	24	17	13
1989(d)	8	19 8	9	8	18	13	11

(a) Includes persons with other post-school qualifications. (b) Includes persons who never attended school and those for whom secondary school qualifications could not be determined. (c) Includes persons still at school. (d) Prior to February 1987 the data now published in the Educational Attainment categories "Trade qualification or apprenticeship" and "Certificate or diploma" were published as "Trade, technical or other certificate". See paragraph 14 of Appendix B.



TABLE 3. ALL PERSONS : LABOUR FORCE STATUS AND EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT, FEBRUARY 1989

Educational attainment	Employed			Unem- ployed -'000-	Labour force	Not in labour force	Total	Unem- ployment rate --per cent--	Partici- pation rate
	Full-time	Part-time	Total						
MALES									
With post-school qualifications	2,145.9	95.2	2,241.1	82.5	2,323.6	448.8	2,772.4	3.5	83.8
Degree	478.8	27.2	506.0	18.0	524.0	67.6	591.6	3.4	88.6
Trade qualification or apprenticeship	1,125.2	36.3	1,161.5	41.5	1,203.0	272.5	1,475.5	3.4	81.5
Certificate or diploma	535.8	31.1	566.9	22.2	589.1	107.8	697.0	3.8	84.5
Other	6.1	* 0.6	6.7	* 0.7	7.5	* 0.9	8.3	* 10.0	89.6
Without post-school qualifications(a)	2,026.2	150.3	2,176.5	219.8	2,396.3	803.1	3,199.5	9.2	74.9
Attended highest level of secondary school available	488.3	63.2	551.4	48.7	600.1	130.8	730.9	8.1	82.1
Did not attend highest level of secondary school available	1,523.2	86.5	1,609.7	168.8	1,778.6	658.1	2,436.6	9.5	73.0
Left at age--									
18 and over	31.0	* 2.0	33.0	4.2	37.2	6.3	43.5	11.3	85.6
16 or 17	610.2	26.4	636.7	61.4	698.1	90.7	788.7	8.8	88.5
14 or 15	758.5	45.7	804.2	89.1	893.3	401.4	1,294.7	10.0	69.0
13 and under	123.5	12.4	135.9	14.1	150.0	159.7	309.7	9.4	48.4
Never attended school	4.6	* 0.3	4.9	* 0.7	5.6	11.1	16.7	* 12.8	33.5
Still at school	* 1.4	60.3	61.7	17.9	79.6	204.2	283.7	22.5	28.0
Total	4,173.5	305.7	4,479.3	320.2	4,799.4	1,456.1	6,255.6	6.7	76.7
FEMALES									
With post-school qualifications	852.8	443.3	1,296.1	83.6	1,379.7	700.7	2,080.4	6.1	66.3
Degree	194.8	73.3	268.1	14.2	282.4	83.6	366.0	5.0	77.2
Trade qualification or apprenticeship	54.5	34.3	88.8	5.3	94.2	101.0	195.2	5.7	48.2
Certificate or diploma	598.5	331.1	929.6	61.4	990.9	505.3	1,496.2	6.2	66.2
Other	5.0	4.6	9.6	* 2.7	12.3	10.8	23.0	* 22.0	53.2
Without post-school qualifications(a)	998.3	658.8	1,657.1	165.2	1,822.3	2,175.5	3,997.8	9.1	45.6
Attended highest level of secondary school available	279.2	150.1	429.3	48.3	477.6	257.4	735.0	10.1	65.0
Did not attend highest level of secondary school available	711.5	503.3	1,214.8	115.1	1,329.9	1,881.9	3,211.8	8.7	41.4
Left at age--									
18 and over	17.8	4.6	22.3	* 2.8	25.1	17.9	43.0	* 11.2	58.5
16 or 17	315.6	181.8	497.4	49.8	547.2	394.4	941.7	9.1	58.1
14 or 15	338.4	287.5	625.9	58.3	684.1	1,168.3	1,852.4	8.5	36.9
13 and under	39.7	29.5	69.2	4.2	73.4	301.3	374.7	5.7	19.6
Never attended school	* 3.0	* 1.8	4.7	* 0.7	5.5	29.1	34.6	* 13.4	15.8
Still at school	* 0.8	82.1	82.9	19.4	102.3	182.0	284.3	19.0	36.0
Total	1,852.0	1,184.2	3,036.1	268.2	3,304.4	3,058.1	6,362.5	8.1	51.9
PERSONS									
With post-school qualifications	2,998.7	538.5	3,537.2	166.1	3,703.3	1,149.5	4,852.8	4.5	76.3
Degree	673.6	100.5	774.1	32.3	806.4	151.2	957.6	4.0	84.2
Trade qualification or apprenticeship	1,179.7	70.6	1,250.3	46.8	1,297.1	373.5	1,670.7	3.6	77.6
Certificate or diploma	1,134.3	362.1	1,496.5	83.6	1,580.1	613.1	2,193.2	5.3	72.0
Other	11.1	5.2	16.3	* 3.4	19.7	11.6	31.4	* 17.4	62.9
Without post-school qualifications(a)	3,024.6	809.1	3,833.6	385.0	4,218.6	2,978.6	7,197.2	9.1	58.6
Attended highest level of secondary school available	767.5	213.3	980.8	96.9	1,077.7	388.2	1,465.9	9.0	73.5
Did not attend highest level of secondary school available	2,234.7	589.9	2,824.5	283.9	3,108.5	2,540.0	5,648.5	9.1	55.0
Left at age--									
18 and over	48.7	6.6	55.3	7.0	62.3	24.1	86.5	11.2	72.1
16 or 17	925.8	208.2	1,134.1	111.2	1,245.3	485.1	1,730.4	8.9	72.0
14 or 15	1,096.9	333.1	1,430.0	147.4	1,577.4	1,569.7	3,147.1	9.3	50.1
13 and under	163.2	41.9	205.1	18.3	223.4	461.0	684.4	8.2	32.6
Never attended school	7.6	* 2.1	9.6	* 1.5	11.1	40.2	51.3	* 13.1	21.6
Still at school	* 2.2	142.4	144.6	37.3	181.9	386.2	568.1	20.5	32.0
Total	6,025.5	1,489.9	7,515.4	588.4	8,103.8	4,514.3	12,618.1	7.3	64.2

(a) Includes persons for whom secondary school qualifications could not be determined.

TABLE 4. ALL PERSONS : AGE AND EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT, FEBRUARY 1989  
(<sup>'000</sup>)

	Age group						
Educational attainment	15 - 19	20 - 24	25 - 34	35 - 44	45 - 54	55 and over	Total
MALES							
With post-school qualifications	22.9	232.7	729.7	715.4	473.9	597.9	2,772.4
Degree	* 0.1	44.1	182.0	184.4	91.5	89.5	591.6
Trade qualification or apprenticeship	10.9	131.3	382.9	335.4	260.9	354.1	1,475.5
Certificate or diploma	11.6	55.8	162.4	193.5	120.5	153.1	697.0
Other	* 0.2	* 1.5	* 2.4	* 2.0	* 0.9	* 1.3	8.3
Without post-school qualifications(a)	400.9	417.2	615.9	520.4	394.3	850.8	3,199.5
Attended highest level of secondary school available	153.9	165.7	171.0	113.0	49.2	78.1	730.9
Did not attend highest level of secondary school available	246.1	250.0	439.0	403.9	340.6	756.9	2,436.6
Left at age--							
18 and over	* 2.6	11.9	15.3	7.6	* 2.3	* 3.7	43.5
16 or 17	148.2	148.5	218.8	131.8	59.3	82.2	788.7
14 or 15	95.0	88.5	190.0	229.8	215.3	476.1	1,294.7
13 and under	* 0.4	* 1.2	14.9	34.7	63.7	194.9	309.7
Never attended school	* 0.2	* 0.4	* 1.6	* 0.7	* 2.1	11.6	16.7
Still at school	283.6	* 0.1	..	..	..	..	283.7
Total	707.5	650.0	1,345.5	1,235.8	868.1	1,448.7	6,255.6
FEMALES							
With post-school qualifications	62.9	237.3	616.8	514.3	285.5	363.7	2,080.4
Degree	* 0.3	42.3	143.9	110.7	39.0	29.8	366.0
Trade qualification or apprenticeship	* 3.5	20.2	40.0	40.1	29.0	62.5	195.2
Certificate or diploma	58.2	172.9	426.9	358.1	214.3	265.8	1,496.2
Other	* 1.0	* 1.9	6.1	5.4	* 3.1	5.6	23.0
Without post-school qualifications(a)	333.2	402.6	734.9	707.6	541.4	1,277.9	3,997.8
Attended highest level of secondary school available	166.3	154.9	156.3	103.1	53.9	100.5	735.0
Did not attend highest level of secondary school available	166.3	246.3	572.3	598.0	478.3	1,150.7	3,211.8
Left at age--							
18 and over	* 2.2	8.6	14.3	7.2	5.1	5.6	43.0
16 or 17	99.3	146.5	280.5	192.4	86.9	136.2	941.7
14 or 15	64.2	88.8	260.2	352.3	321.2	765.7	1,852.4
13 and under	* 0.6	* 2.4	17.3	46.1	65.2	243.1	374.7
Never attended school	* 0.0	* 0.3	* 2.8	* 1.5	6.5	23.7	34.6
Still at school	284.1	* 0.2	..	..	..	..	284.3
Total	680.3	640.1	1,351.7	1,221.9	826.9	1,641.6	6,362.5
PERSONS							
With post-school qualifications	85.8	469.9	1,346.5	1,229.6	759.3	961.6	4,852.8
Degree	* 0.4	86.4	325.9	295.2	130.5	119.3	957.6
Trade qualification or apprenticeship	14.4	151.5	422.8	375.5	289.9	416.6	1,670.7
Certificate or diploma	69.8	228.7	589.3	551.6	334.9	418.9	2,193.2
Other	* 1.2	* 3.4	8.5	7.4	4.0	6.8	31.4
Without post-school qualifications(a)	734.2	819.8	1,350.8	1,228.0	935.7	2,128.7	7,197.2
Attended highest level of secondary school available	320.2	320.6	327.2	216.1	103.1	178.6	1,465.9
Did not attend highest level of secondary school available	412.4	496.3	1,011.2	1,001.9	818.9	1,907.6	5,648.5
Left at age--							
18 and over	4.8	20.6	29.5	14.9	7.4	9.3	86.5
16 or 17	247.4	294.9	499.3	324.2	146.2	218.4	1,730.4
14 or 15	159.2	177.3	450.2	582.1	536.5	1,241.9	3,147.1
13 and under	* 1.0	* 3.6	32.2	80.7	128.9	438.0	684.4
Never attended school	* 0.2	* 0.7	4.4	* 2.2	8.6	35.3	51.3
Still at school	567.7	* 0.3	..	..	..	..	568.1
Total	1,387.7	1,290.1	2,697.3	2,457.7	1,695.0	3,090.3	12,618.1

(a) Includes persons for whom secondary school qualifications could not be determined.



TABLE 5. EMPLOYED PERSONS : OCCUPATION AND EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT, FEBRUARY 1989  
(<sup>'000</sup>)

Educational attainment	Occupation								Total
	Managers and administrators	Professionals	Para-professionals	Tradespersons	Clerks	Salespersons and personal service workers	Plant and machine operators, and drivers	Labourers and related workers	
With post-school qualifications(a)	383.2	810.0	340.5	750.2	494.0	332.3	169.1	258.0	3,537.2
Degree	85.2	513.8	29.4	15.3	62.8	40.0	8.6	19.0	774.1
Trade qualification or apprenticeship	127.2	32.6	72.6	668.1	41.1	64.7	105.2	138.9	1,250.3
Certificate or diploma	169.2	262.9	238.5	65.7	384.8	223.6	54.6	97.1	1,496.5
Without post-school qualifications(b)	442.1	96.9	112.7	455.0	798.0	655.2	407.4	866.3	3,833.6
Attended highest level of secondary school available	108.4	56.3	49.1	72.0	276.9	226.5	47.9	143.6	980.8
Did not attend highest level of secondary school available	330.8	39.0	62.6	380.8	515.2	425.2	356.5	714.5	2,824.5
Left at age--									
16 and over	110.7	19.4	30.0	180.3	275.0	205.9	117.9	250.2	1,189.4
14 or 15	178.1	19.2	30.1	177.9	228.9	206.3	196.5	393.0	1,430.0
13 and under	42.0	* 0.4	* 2.5	22.6	11.3	13.0	42.2	71.2	205.1
Still at school	* 0.9	* 0.2	* 1.0	* 1.9	* 3.7	85.9	* 0.7	50.3	144.6
Total	826.1	907.1	454.2	1,207.1	1,295.6	1,073.5	577.1	1,174.7	7,515.4

(a) Includes persons with other post-school qualifications. (b) Includes persons who never attended school and those for whom secondary school qualifications could not be determined.

TABLE 6. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS : DURATION OF CURRENT PERIOD OF UNEMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT, FEBRUARY 1989

Educational attainment	Duration of current period of unemployment(weeks)							Total	Average duration	Median duration
	1 and under 4	4 and under 8	8 and under 13	13 and under 26	26 and under 52	52 and under 104	104 and over			
--'000--										
With post-school qualifications(a)	41.0	31.6	21.1	15.1	19.8	16.3	21.2	166.1	39.6	9
Degree	8.0	7.3	6.7	* 2.2	4.0	* 2.7	* 1.5	32.3	23.4	8
Trade qualification or apprenticeship	6.7	8.8	4.6	4.1	6.4	6.2	10.0	46.8	64.3	19
Certificate or diploma	25.2	15.0	9.8	8.4	9.0	7.4	8.7	83.6	31.7	8
Without post-school qualifications(b)	75.5	60.0	49.7	47.1	41.6	46.8	64.3	385.0	50.1	13
Attended highest level of secondary school available	24.6	21.1	17.8	10.7	8.8	8.6	5.3	96.9	22.5	8
Did not attend highest level of secondary school available	50.5	38.2	31.4	35.7	32.5	37.6	58.1	283.9	59.1	18
Left at age--										
16 and over	21.8	20.4	13.4	16.5	12.6	14.9	18.7	118.3	47.7	13
14 or 15	26.9	16.9	15.9	17.2	18.0	19.6	33.0	147.4	64.6	21
13 and under	* 1.9	* 0.9	* 2.1	* 2.0	* 2.0	* 3.1	6.4	18.3	88.6	52
Still at school	12.5	8.5	6.1	* 3.6	4.5	* 1.3	* 0.8	37.3	13.9	6
Total	129.0	100.1	76.9	65.8	66.0	64.4	86.3	588.4	44.9	11
--per cent--										
Proportion of unemployed persons	21.9	17.0	13.1	11.2	11.2	10.9	14.7	100.0	..	..

(a) Includes persons with other post-school qualifications. (b) Includes persons who never attended school and those for whom secondary school qualifications could not be determined.

## APPENDIX A

### GLOSSARY

*Average duration of unemployment:* obtained by dividing the aggregate number of weeks a group has been unemployed by the number of persons in that group.

*Certificate or diploma:* completion of an approved certificate or diploma in secretarial or business studies, administration, teaching, nursing, etc.

*Degree:* a bachelor degree (including honours), a graduate or post-graduate diploma, masters degree or a doctorate.

*Educational attainment:* measures the highest qualification obtained by the respondent. Qualifications may include those obtained at other than educational institutions (e.g. nursing qualifications obtained at a hospital).

*Highest level of secondary school available:* the highest level of secondary schooling (or equivalent) offered by the education system at the time the respondent left school.

*Median duration of unemployment:* the duration which divides persons who were unemployed into two equal groups, one comprising persons whose time spent unemployed during the year is above the median, and the other, persons whose time spent unemployed is below it.

*Other post-school qualifications:* completion of other types of education, e.g. adult education, preparatory/bridging course or hobby course.

*Post-school qualifications:* qualifications held by those persons who had left school and answered 'Yes' to the question: 'Since leaving school have you obtained a trade qualification, certificate, diploma, degree or any other qualification?'. Respondents indicated which of the following groups best described their highest qualification: Degree; Trade qualification or apprenticeship; Certificate or diploma; Other post-school qualification.

*Still at school:* current school attendance was recorded only for persons aged fifteen to twenty years.

*Trade qualification or apprenticeship:* completion of an approved trade/technical apprenticeship in fitting and turning, hairdressing, plumbing, carpentry, etc.

Note: Definitions of labour force and demographic classifications appearing in this publication are given in *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0).



## APPENDIX B

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### Introduction

The monthly population survey (which is described in *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0)) comprises the monthly labour force survey and supplementary topics. This publication contains some results of a supplementary survey run in association with the February 1989 labour force survey conducted throughout Australia.

2. Of the respondents to the labour force survey, those who fell within the scope of the supplementary survey were asked additional questions. They were asked about their highest educational qualifications. For persons with post-school qualifications, the information sought included field of study, and for those without post-school qualifications, it included whether they completed the highest level of secondary schooling available, and if not, at what age they left school.

#### Scope

3. The scope of this supplementary survey includes all persons aged 15 and over except:

- (a) members of the permanent defence forces;
- (b) certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated populations;
- (c) overseas residents in Australia;
- (d) members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependents) stationed in Australia;
- (e) visitors to private dwellings;
- (f) some patients in hospitals and sanatoriums; and
- (g) inmates of reformatories, gaols etc.

4. In the tables, 'All Persons' refers to all persons within the scope of the survey.

#### Coverage

5. In the population survey, coverage rules are applied which aim to ensure that each person is associated with only one dwelling, and hence has only one chance of selection. See *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0) for more details.

#### Definitions

6. Definitions of labour force and demographic classifications appearing in this publication are given in *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0).

7. Unless otherwise stated, all characteristics referenced in this publication relate to the week before the interview.

#### Results of the survey

8. Due to differences in the scope and method of estimation used in this supplementary survey and that used in the labour force survey, there are some small variations between estimates in this publication and those in the corresponding issue of *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0).

9. This publication contains only a summary of the results of the survey. A more detailed publication *Labour Force Status and Educational Attainment* (6235.0) will be released as soon as possible.

10. Results of similar surveys, conducted annually since February 1979, have been published in *Labour Force Status and Educational Attainment, Australia* (6235.0).

11. It is proposed that this survey will be conducted next in February 1990.

#### Unpublished statistics

12. As well as the statistics included in this and related publications, the ABS may have other relevant unpublished data available. Inquiries should be made to the contact in the Phone Inquiries box at the front of this publication.

#### Discontinuities in the series

13. Estimates for the years 1986 to 1988 have been revised in line with a change in the method of weighting. Visitors to private dwellings and institutionalised persons have been excluded from the base population benchmarks.

14. Since February 1987 an expanded classification of post-school qualifications has been used. As a result a small number of persons previously categorised as 'Degree' or 'Other' may now be included in the categories 'Trade qualification or apprenticeship' or 'Certificate or diploma'.

#### Survey sample redesign

15. The Labour Force Survey (LFS) sample has been redesigned and reselected using information collected in the 1986 Population Census. As a result, the standard errors used in this supplementary survey differ from those used in surveys of the same topic run prior to September 1987. For details, see *Information Paper — Labour Force Survey — Sample Design* (6269.0).

#### Estimation procedure

16. The estimates are derived from the population survey by use of a ratio estimation procedure which ensures that the estimates conform to an independently estimated distribution of the population for each capital city and remainder of State by age and sex, rather than to the corresponding distribution within the sample itself.

17. Since the estimates in this publication are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings they are subject to sampling variability, that is,



they may differ from those that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey. One measure of the likely difference is given by the *standard error*, which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of dwellings was included. There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the number that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors. Another measure of the likely difference is the *relative standard error*, which is obtained by expressing the standard error as a percentage of the estimate.

18. As can be seen from the standard error table, *the smaller the estimate, the higher the relative standard error*. Very small estimates are thus subject to such high standard errors (relative to the size of the estimate) as to detract seriously from their value for most reasonable uses. In the tables in this publication only estimates with relative standard errors of 25 per cent or less and percentages based on such estimates are considered sufficiently reliable for most purposes. However, estimates and percentages with larger relative standard errors have been included and are preceded by an asterisk (e.g. \*3.9) to indicate they are subject to high standard errors and should be used with caution.

19. The imprecision due to sampling variability, which is measured by the standard error, should not be confused with inaccuracies that may occur because of imperfections in reporting by interviewers and respondents and errors made in coding and processing data. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as the *non-sampling error* and they may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or a sample. Every effort is made to reduce the non-sampling error to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers and efficient operating procedures.

#### Related publications

20. Other ABS publications which may be of interest include:

*The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0)—issued monthly

*Transition from Education to Work, Australia* (6227.0)—issued annually

*Labour Force Status and Educational Attendance (Persons Aged 15 to 24), Australia* (6272.0)—issued annually

*National Schools Statistics Collection, Australia* (4221.0)—issued annually

21. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications, Australia* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Publications Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Publications Advice are available from any ABS office.

#### Symbols and other usages

- \* subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses. See paragraphs 16 to 18 above.
- . . not applicable
- r revised

22. Because estimates have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

#### Electronic services

VIATEL. Key \*656# for selected current economic, social and demographic statistics.

AUSSTATS. Thousands of up-to-date time series are available on this ABS on-line service through CSIRONET.

For further information phone the AUSSTATS Help Desk on (062) 52 6017.

TELESTATS. This service provides foreign trade statistics tailored to users' requirements.

Further information is available on (062) 52 5404.

#### Floppy disk service.

Selected ABS statistics are available on floppy disk. Further information is available on (062) 52 6684.

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#### STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES

Size of estimate	Number	Relative standard error (per cent)	Size of estimate	Number	Relative standard error (per cent)
800	400	49.5	6,000	1,150	19.2
1,000	450	44.9	10,000	1,500	14.9
1,300	520	39.9	20,000	2,050	10.4
1,500	560	37.3	50,000	3,150	6.3
1,800	620	34.3	100,000	4,250	4.2
2,000	650	32.7	200,000	5,600	2.8
2,500	740	29.4	300,000	6,600	2.2
3,000	810	27.0	500,000	8,000	1.6
3,500	880	25.1	1,000,000	10,400	1.0
4,000	940	23.5	2,000,000	13,200	0.7
4,500	1,000	22.2	5,000,000	17,700	0.4
5,000	1,050	21.1	10,000,000	21,800	0.2

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